

STATE SENATOR • JIM BARCIA • 31ST DISTRICT

Barcia Press Release

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SENATOR BARCIA APPLAUDS \$1.4 MILLION IN TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT GRANTS

Matching grants to fund improvements for Arenac and Tuscola

LANSING -- Senator Jim Barcia (D-Bay City) today applauded the announcement of \$1.4 in federal Transportation Enhancement and MDOT funding that will go towards improving and beautifying downtowns and business districts. The grants are part of a \$20 million grant package for 37 projects in 25 Michigan counties recently announced by Governor Granholm.

“I’m extremely pleased at the news of this funding for our area,” Sen. Barcia said. “The grant will not only improve the aesthetics of our communities, but will attract new businesses and create jobs.”

The Arenac County project includes establishment of the Arenac County Welcome Center in a former depot at the corner of US-23 and M-61 in Standish. The budget will include \$604,400 in federal funds and \$151,000 in MDOT funding for a total of \$755,400. Arenac County will contribute \$377,120 in non-participating costs, bringing the total investment to \$1.132M.

The Tuscola County project includes construction of 5.3 miles of two-directional paved shoulders on Saginaw Road from Washburn Road to Lobell Road as part of a larger plan to facilitate safe pedestrian and bicycle commutes between Marysville and Vassar. The project will be coordinated with a road construction project scheduled for 2006. The budget is \$655,780, including \$524,624 in federal funds and \$131,156 from the Tuscola Road Commission.

“Improving accessibility, boosting the economy, and enhancing quality of life makes this an ideal investment,” Sen. Barcia said. “I could not be more pleased.”

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